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The use of medicinal plants by pregnant women in Africa: a systematic review

Seid Mussa Ahmed^{a*}, Hedvig Nordeng^b, Johanne Sundby^a, Yesuf Ahmed Aragaw^c, Hugo J. de Boer^d

^aDepartment of Community Medicine and Global Health, Institute of Health and Society, Faculty of Medicine, University of Oslo, Norway

^bPharmacoepidemiology and Drug Safety Research Group, School of Pharmacy, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, University of Oslo, Norway

^cDepartment of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Faculty of Medical Sciences, Jimma Institute of Health, Jimma University, Ethiopia

^dNatural History Museum, University of Oslo, Norway

SMA: seidma@studmed.uio.no

HN: h.m.e.nordeng@farmasi.uio.no

JS: johanne.sundby@medisin.uio.no

YAA: yesufahmed47@yahoo.com

HJB: h.d.boer@nhm.uio.no

* Corresponding author. Postal address: Olav M. Troviks vei 36, H0305; 0864 Oslo, Norway.

Fax number: +47-22850590; Telephone (Office): +47-22850688.

Abstract**Ethnopharmacological relevance**

Medicinal plant (MP) use during pregnancy is common in Africa and may have profound effects on both the mother and the developing foetus. A lack of overview complicates monitoring and regulating the use of MPs during pregnancy.

Aim of the study

This systematic review analyses prevalence of use of MPs during pregnancy, regional distribution, types and prevalence, MP properties, potential health risks, and consensus of MPs use, and suggests relevant measures to mitigate negative effects on pregnancy.

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